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REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 1-11 were previously cancelled.

Claim 12 is currently amended.

Claims 13-22 were previously presented.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 12-22 are now pending in this application.

Claim Objections

In connection with claim 12, the Examiner objected to claim 12 due to an antecedent basis issue relating to "the passenger entertainment system," in lines 7 of the claim. As suggested by the Examiner, appropriate action has been taken to correct the cited objections/rejections of claim 12, and therefore claim 12 should not be subject to the Examiner's objection/rejection and should be allowed.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

Claims 12-22 were rejected under § 103 (a) as being obvious by U.S. Patent No. 5,666,151 by Kondo et al., in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,058,288 by Reed et al. Applicant respectfully submits that neither reference, alone or in combination, renders obvious that which is claimed in the present application.

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Independent Claim 12

Claim 12 is not rendered obvious under § 103 (a) by U.S. Patent No. 5,666,151 by Kondo et al., in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,058,288 by Reed et al. Neither Kondo nor Reed teaches or suggests claim 12 because neither reference teaches or suggests a method comprising: “mapping at least one of the plurality of RF channels to the programming signals assigned to the stored digital media, such that the at least one RF channel is configured to transmit multiple programming signals on a single RF channel based on the hardware configuration of the passenger entertainment system, wherein the RF channels are mapped to the programming signals independent of an equally-distributive relationship between the RF channels and the programming signals.”

Regarding claim 12 of the present application, no proper combination of Kondo and Reed teaches or suggests the subject matter of claim 12. In connection with the “mapping at least one of the plurality of RF channels to the programming signals assigned to the stored digital media, such that the at least one RF channel is configured to transmit multiple programming signals on a single RF channel based on the hardware configuration of the passenger entertainment system, *wherein the RF channels are mapped to the programming signals independent of an equally-distributive relationship between the RF channels and the programming signals*” recitation of independent claim 12, neither Kondo nor Reed teach this aspect of claim 12. Kondo teaches a system wherein the number of analog video and digital video signal providers may be changed, as pointed out by the Examiner. Specifically, Kondo teaches a system having “twenty digital video signal providers ... and one analog video signal provider,” wherein the system can be configured “to increase the number of the analog video signal providers and to reduce the number of the digital video signal providers ... so that the total number of [the video] signal providers remains 21.” (Kondo, col. 5, lines 20-25.) Although, as indicated by the Examiner, the Kondo reference discloses the ability to change the number of channels for the digital video signals by changing the compression rate of the signal, Kondo discloses a system limited to

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twenty-one video signal providers, digital and analog signals combined. However, the invention of the present application is not confined to such a technological limitation as in Kondo.

Additionally, the Kondo reference discloses a system having twenty digital video signal providers with four discs each on which video signals are digitally compressed. In total, these video signals provide 80 channels of digital video signals, i.e., $20 \times 4 = 80$ channels. (See col. 4, lines 25-29.) Kondo further discloses a system wherein the compression rate may be altered such that the twenty digital video signal providers could provide six channels of video signals each, totaling 120 channels, i.e., $20 \times 6 = 120$ channels. (See col. 4, lines 30-44.) However, the Kondo reference does not disclose a system wherein "the RF channels are mapped to the programming signals *independent of an equally-distributive relationship* between the RF channels and the programming signals." The system of the present claim is configured so that RF channels and the programming channels are not dependent on an equally distributed or proportionately corresponding relationship. For example, the system may be configured so that RF channel numbers 1-10 may each be assigned to one program channel, RF channel number 11 may be assigned to up to fifteen different program channels, RF channel 12-13 may be assigned to one program channel with up to fifteen video streams, and so on. Specifically, the Kondo reference does not teach or suggest a system capable of employing differing compression ratios for the various RF channels.

The Applicant acknowledges that the Examiner's statements regarding changing the compression ratios of the digital audio provider 10 (Office Action, p. 10); however, the Examiner has cited to no teaching in the prior art references of a system having mapped programming signals independent of an equally-distributive relationship between the RF channels and the programming signals. The cited prior art does not teach such a claimed system and merely discloses the ability to compress the data over *all* the programming signals proportionately (i.e., dependent on an equally-distributive relationship). The Examiner's failure to provide a citation to the art of record is not surprising because the only evidence in the record of a teaching of such a feature is contained in the present Application. Of course, any reliance on the present

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Application would constitute impermissible hindsight reasoning. Applicant respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections of Claims 12 since at least one element of the claim is not disclosed, taught or suggested by the Kondo or Reed reference, in combination or individually.

Dependent Claims 13-21

Dependent claims 13-21 incorporate by reference the limitations of independent claim 12, and are therefore allowable for the same reasons that claim 12 is allowable. The Applicant submits that if the method of claim 12 is novel and non-obvious, the claims that depend therefrom are also novel and non-obvious. Additionally, Applicant respectfully submits that the newly presented dependent claims recite additional novel and non-obvious features which are not taught or suggested by the references.

Independent Claim 22

Claim 22 is not rendered obvious under § 103 (a) by U.S. Patent No. 5,666,151 by Kondo et al., in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,058,288 by Reed et al. Neither Kondo nor Reed teaches or suggests claim 22 because neither reference teaches or suggests a method comprising: "assigning one of the plurality of RF channels to the program channels assigned to the digital media stored on the digital media file server, such that each RF channel is configured to transmit multiple program channels based on the hardware configuration of the passenger entertainment system, wherein the RF channels are assigned to the program channels independent of a proportionate distributive relationship between the RF channels and the program channels."

Regarding claim 22 of the present application, no proper combination of Kondo and Reed teaches or suggests the subject matter of claim 22. In connection with the "assigning one of the plurality of RF channels to the program channels assigned to the digital media stored on the digital media file server, such that each RF channel is configured to transmit multiple program channels based on the hardware configuration of the passenger entertainment system, wherein the *RF channels are assigned to the program channels independent of a proportionate distributive*

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relationship between the RF channels and the program channels" recitation of independent claim 22, neither Kondo nor Reed teach this aspect of claim 22. Kondo teaches a system wherein the number of analog video and digital video signal providers may be changed, as pointed out by the Examiner. Although, as indicated by the Examiner, the Kondo reference discloses the ability to change the number of channels for the digital video signals by changing the compression rate of the signal, Kondo discloses a system limited to twenty-one video signal providers, digital and analog signals combined. Kondo further discloses a system wherein the compression rate may be altered such that the twenty digital video signal providers could provide six channels of video signals each, totaling 120 channels, i.e., $20 \times 6 = 120$ channels. (See col. 4, lines 30-44.) However, the Kondo reference does not disclose a system wherein "the RF channels are mapped to the programming signals *channels independent of a proportionate distributive relationship* between the RF channels and the program signals." The system of the present claim is configured so that RF channels and the programming channels are not dependent on an equally-distributed or proportionately corresponding relationship. For example, the system may be configured so that RF channel numbers 1-10 may each be assigned to one program channel, RF channel number 11 may be assigned to up to fifteen different program channels, RF channel 12-13 may be assigned to one program channel with up to fifteen video streams, and so on. Specifically, the Kondo reference does not teach or suggest a system capable of employing differing compression ratios for the various RF channels.

Although the Applicant acknowledges that the Examiner's statements regarding digital audio provider 10 (Office Action, p. 10), the Examiner has cited to no teaching in the prior art references of a system having mapped programming signals independent of an equally-distributive relationship between the RF channels and the programming signals. The cited prior art does not teach such a claimed system and merely discloses the ability to compress the data over all the programming signals proportionately (i.e., dependent on an equally-distributive relationship). The Examiner's failure to provide a citation to the art of record is not surprising because the only evidence in the record of a teaching of such a feature is contained in the present Application. Of course, any reliance on the present Application would constitute impermissible

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hindsight reasoning. Applicant respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections of Claims 22 since at least one element of the claim is not disclosed, taught or suggested by the Kondo or Reed reference, in combination or individually.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 18-1722. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 18-1722.

Respectfully submitted,

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